

REMARKS

Several corrections have been made to the specification. Claim 10 has been amended to correct a mistyped claim number. Claims 11 (second occurrence) - 23 have been renumbered as Claims 13 - 25, and claim dependencies therein have been amended accordingly. Independent Claims 1, 14, and 20 have been amended to clarify limitations thereof. No new matter has been introduced with these amendments, which are supported in the specification as originally filed. Claims 1 - 25 remain in the application.

I. Proposed Drawing Corrections

Proposed replacement drawings are submitted herewith for Fig. 3B. The corrections made in this replacement drawing are discussed above in "Amendments to the Drawings". No new matter is introduced with the replacement drawing.

II. Objection to the Specification

Paragraph 2 of the Office Action dated May 28, 2004 (herein, "the Office Action") states that the cross reference to the related application should be provided on p. 1, lines 5 - 6 of the specification. The specification has been amended herein to include this information.

III. Objection to the Claims

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action states that the claims, as originally presented, were misnumbered. Applicants apologize for this typographical error, and have renumbered the claims as noted in the Office Action. Dependent claims have been amended, where necessary, to

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refer to the proper ones of these renumbered claims.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Paragraph 5 of the Office Action states that Claims 1 - 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent 6,697,814 to Porter in view of U. S. Patent Publication 2002/0083168 to Sweeney et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Porter teaches techniques whereby event records are modified prior to transmission to record processors that will process events contained therein. This is discussed throughout Porter's specification. See, for example, lines 9 - 12 of the Abstract ("Before being sent to a record processor, an event record is augmented ...", emphasis added); col. 4, lines 55 - 56 and lines 64 - 66 ("... processing instructions that are conveyed within a service processing record ..." and "... service processing records that are ... packaged with appropriate functionality, then forwarded ...", respectively, emphasis added); and col. 6, lines 53 - 55 ("... the event records are processed by general-purpose record processors and the instructions for performing such processing are conveyed within the event records themselves", emphasis added).

See also col. 8, lines 65 - 67, stating that the "interpretable" records (i.e., those which have already been augmented with processing instructions, according to Porter's disclosed technique) are "then sent" (i.e., after being augmented) to records processors. Porter fails to teach modifications of event records after they have been received at the record processors. (See Porter's Fig. 10 and its corresponding text, beginning at col. 18, line 24, which describes receipt

of Porter's augmented records, referred to therein as "an interpretable".)

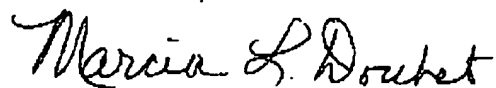
This is in contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, where the "programmatically appending" occurs after the events are received at the management system. See lines 3 - 5 of Applicants' Claim 1, for example. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Porter does not teach limitations of their independent Claims 1, 14, and 20. Sweeney also fails to teach receiving events at a management system and then programmatically appending an additional capability thereto, as claimed in Applicants' independent claims. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that a combination of Porter with Sweeney (if, *arguendo*, that such combination could be made and one of skill in the art would be motivated to attempt such combination) fails to render their independent Claims 1, 14, and 20 unpatentable.

Applicants also respectfully submit that their dependent Claims 2 - 13, 15 - 19, and 21 - 25 are therefore patentable over the references as well. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to withdraw the §103 rejection.

V. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejected claims, withdrawal of all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and allowance of all claims at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)

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